

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

A JOINT MEMORIAL

ENCOURAGING COOPERATION AND COLLABORATION ON A STATEWIDE  
PLANNING CONFERENCE FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES.

WHEREAS, Native Americans have been living in the region  
of New Mexico for over twenty thousand years; and

WHEREAS, over twenty-five thousand ancient Indian  
settlements have been found in the state of New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, twenty-three Indian reservations are located  
within New Mexico's borders and comprise approximately ten  
percent of the land base; and

WHEREAS, communities such as the Pueblos of Taos and  
Acoma are among the oldest continually occupied communities  
in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the Apache, Navajo and pueblo communities  
maintain their unique cultures and traditions to the benefit  
and promotion of New Mexico tourism, arts and crafts and  
general scientific knowledge; and

WHEREAS, there were two hundred five thousand Native  
Americans in New Mexico in 2003, comprising eleven percent of  
the population of the state; and

WHEREAS, from 2000 through 2003, New Mexico ranked fifth  
of all states in terms of Native American populations and saw  
an increase of eight thousand four hundred thirty Native  
Americans during that period; and

1           WHEREAS, McKinley county ranks third nationwide in terms  
2 of its Native American population, with fifty-eight thousand  
3 Native Americans comprising seventy-eight percent of its  
4 population; and San Juan county ranks seventh, with forty-six  
5 thousand Native Americans comprising eighty-eight percent of  
6 its population; and

7           WHEREAS, in cities with a population over one hundred  
8 thousand, Albuquerque ranks fourth in terms of its Native  
9 American population, with twenty-two thousand forty-seven  
10 Native Americans, constituting nearly five percent of its  
11 population; and

12           WHEREAS, the average national poverty rate for Native  
13 Americans from 2001 to 2003 was twenty percent; and

14           WHEREAS, Native Americans have the highest percentage,  
15 nearly twenty-nine percent, of people who have no health  
16 insurance; and

17           WHEREAS, only fourteen percent of Native Americans over  
18 the age of twenty-five hold bachelors' degrees; and

19           WHEREAS, the tribal nations of New Mexico have sovereign  
20 jurisdiction within their reservations and have become  
21 increasingly self-determining in the administration and  
22 management of their people and natural resources; and

23           WHEREAS, the mining of coal, oil and gas on Native  
24 American lands in New Mexico contributes substantially to New  
25 Mexico's economy; and

1           WHEREAS, the oldest and most senior water rights are  
2 held by Native American tribes in New Mexico; and

3           WHEREAS, the department of housing and urban  
4 development, the Indian health service in the department of  
5 health and human services and the bureau of Indian affairs in  
6 the department of the interior contribute substantial  
7 resources to housing, roads, community infrastructure and  
8 schools for Native Americans in New Mexico; and

9           WHEREAS, Indian casinos employ over nine thousand people  
10 in New Mexico and contributed approximately eighty million  
11 dollars (\$80,000,000) to the revenues of the state in 2004;  
12 and

13           WHEREAS, Indian tribes are among the largest single  
14 employers in Bernalillo, Cibola, McKinley, Otero, Sandoval  
15 and San Juan counties; and

16           WHEREAS, the American planning association created a new  
17 eighteenth division in indigenous planning, whose mission is  
18 to foster an interdisciplinary approach to planning that  
19 upholds Native American land tenure, values and cultural  
20 world views in community development;

21           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE  
22 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that all federal, state, local and tribal  
23 planning agencies be encouraged to cooperate and support the  
24 initiatives of the American planning association's indigenous  
25 planning division; and

1           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the commission on higher  
2 education, all New Mexico post-secondary institutions and the  
3 Indian affairs department support and promote careers and  
4 training in planning for the benefit of tribal communities;  
5 and

6           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that all planners who work for or  
7 with tribal communities be encouraged to convene a statewide  
8 summit on indigenous planning; and

9           BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
10 distributed to all Native American tribes in New Mexico, the  
11 Indian affairs department, the public education department  
12 and the commission on higher education.\_\_\_\_\_

13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25